

VZCZCXYZ0007
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHQT #2735 3132106
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 092106Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0095
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5652
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 6166
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 2164
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ NOV 0216
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY 1146
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY 1419
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 002735

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/05/2016
TAGS: [UNGA](#) [PREL](#) [EC](#) [LE](#) [IS](#) [PHUM](#) [PTER](#)
SUBJECT: ECUADOR: UN COUNTERTERRORISM COMMITTEE VISIT
DEMARCHE

REF: STATE 172245

Classified By: PolOff Erik Martini for reasons 1.4 (B&D)

11. (SBU) PolOff delivered reftel demarche on a possible visit by the UN Counterterrorism Committee to MFA Director General for Multilateral Affairs Lourdes Puma on October 31. Puma had no substantive response at that time, but in a follow-up meeting on November 8, Puma said that the GOE considered such a visit to be "unnecessary." Ecuador is a country free of terrorism and terrorists, she asserted. The Counterterrorism Committee should visit countries where terror exists. Puma pointedly concluded that the GOE would certainly not invite such a visit "this year."

12. (C) Comment: Puma's response coincides with recent official statements condemning and denying Colombian President Uribe's claim that elements of the FARC, which the GOE does not officially recognize as a terrorist group, operate in Ecuador. Given this very public difference of opinion with the GOC, it would be politically difficult for the GOE to accept such a visit. Depending who wins the upcoming November 26 presidential election, however, the next GOE may have a different view. End Comment.
JEWELL